

# The Apache

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE



**We're Keeping  
Our Promises**



# The Apache

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE

VOL. XXVI, NO. 1 FALL 2010

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Mission Statement: To provide a comprehensive collegiate experience that is anchored in the rich traditions of a quality education, vibrant student life and community service. Accreditation: Tyler Junior College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Tyler Junior College. Tyler Junior College gives equal consideration to all applicants for admission, employment and participation in its programs and activities without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, veteran status or limited English proficiency (LEP).

# Calendar OF EVENTS

## SEPTEMBER 16

*Campus Capers and  
Homecoming Pep Rally*

## SEPTEMBER 17

*Founders Day Memorial Service*

## Windsor Plaza

7:30 a.m.

*1960 Reunion / All Alumni Mixer &  
Classic Car Show*

**White Administrative Service  
Center Lobby (where Teepee stood)**  
6 p.m.

## SEPTEMBER 18

*Alumni Association Homecoming  
Awards Luncheon*

## Apache Rooms

11:30 a.m.

*Alumni Catered Tailgate Party*

**Parking lot at Trinity Mother Frances  
Rose Stadium**

5-7 p.m.

*Homecoming Football Game*

## Apaches vs. Navarro

**Trinity Mother Frances Rose Stadium**  
7 p.m.

## OCTOBER 6-10

*Theatre TJC: Women of Troy*

## Jean Browne Theatre

7:30 p.m. nightly, with  
2 p.m. Sunday matinee

## NOVEMBER 4

*Wind Ensemble Concert*

## Wise Auditorium

7:30 p.m.

*Choral Concert*

**First Presbyterian Church, Tyler**  
7:30 p.m.

## NOVEMBER 17-21

*Theatre TJC: Southern Hospitality*

## Jean Browne Theatre

7:30 p.m. nightly, with  
2 p.m. Sunday matinee

## NOVEMBER 19 and 20

*Pops Concert*

## Wise Auditorium

7:30 p.m.

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# The Apache

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE



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Phi Theta Kappa students display some of the many awards earned during 2009-10. From left to right are Melanie Bishop, Darren VanMeter, Luke Bazil and Danielle Robinson. Please see story on Page 12.

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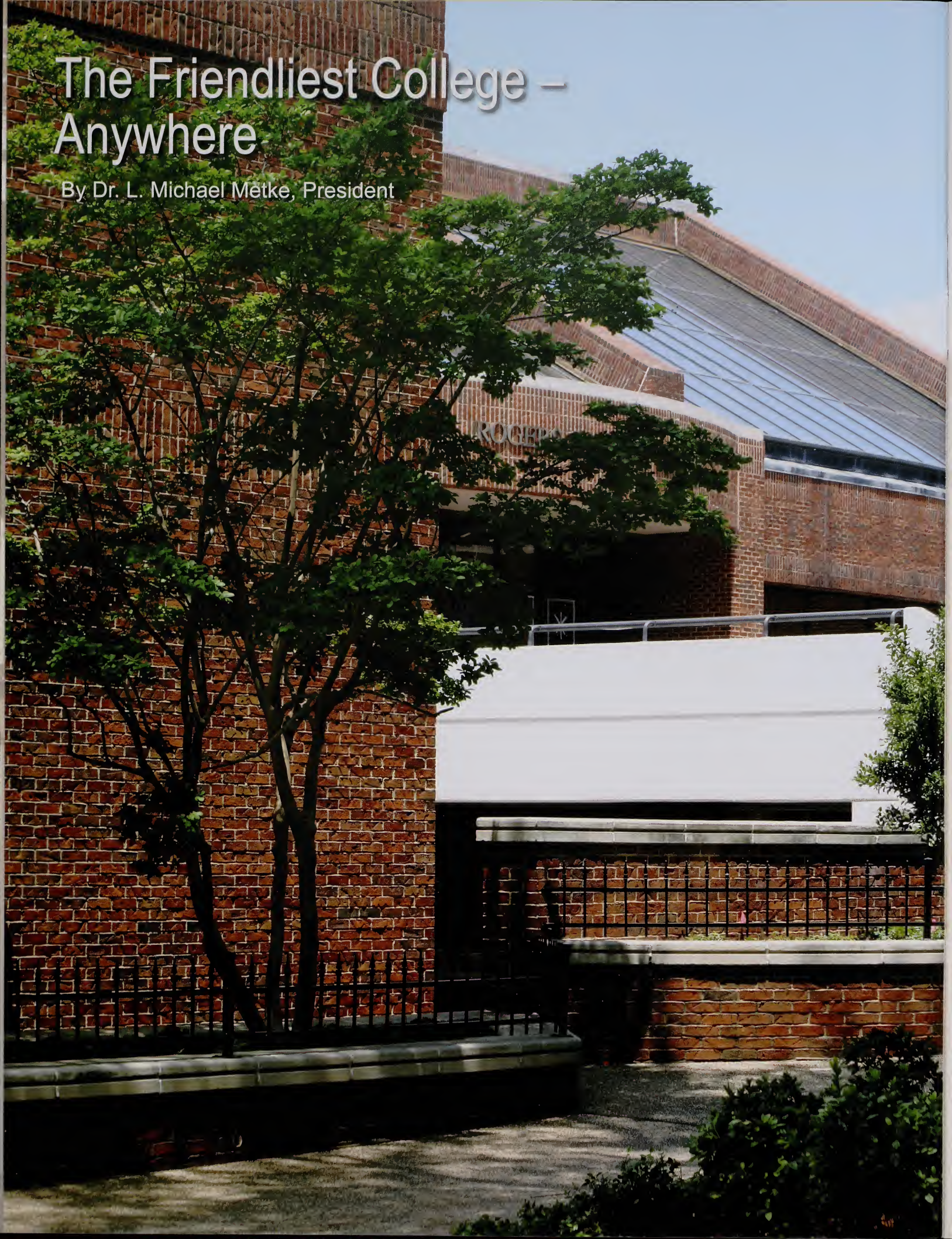
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# The Friendliest College – Anywhere

By Dr. L. Michael Mètke, President





**Y**ears ago, Tyler Junior College was known as the friendliest college in Texas. I understand it was something then-president Dr. Harry Jenkins felt was not only important, but true.

I have been told numerous stories about how Dr. Jenkins expected – and regularly experienced – TJC’s excellent service to students and the community. Students and visitors were treated like part of the family, even if the academic regimen was rigorous and unyielding.

Visitors who appeared to be lost were spotted by faculty and staff, and relationships began that helped connect students for years to come.

Jason Waller, professor and department chair for criminal justice, recalls to this day how Dr. Edwin Fowler ushered him to the band hall on his first day on campus. Dr. Fowler simply saw someone who appeared to need direction and that connection inspired a relationship between the two that lasted until Doc Fowler’s passing in 2008.

From an academic standpoint, I believe we continue to be the friendliest college around in that our professors recognize good effort and are available to help students in their academic struggles. We provide the academic resources necessary to help students at every level.

But, as we grow and attract more students – many of whom come from families that have never participated in higher education – we are seeing changes in student behavior and expectation. As an open-enrollment institution we must continue to welcome these students and help them grow not only academically but as young adults.

To do so effectively, we must make adjustments in how we look, act and respond. We must raise the bar for ourselves and the students we serve.

I have asked a task force to make recommendations that will raise the bar

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**“We want to return the moniker of ‘friendliest college’ to TJC and we want to take that reputation beyond Texas.”**

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for our students, employees and even our visitors. We want to return the moniker of “friendliest college” to TJC and we want to take that reputation beyond Texas.

I truly believe with a few changes being implemented now and the commitment of our students, faculty and staff, we can be known as the “friendliest college, anywhere.”

We’ve seen our students set examples on a national scale in the academic arena, in athletics, amongst student organizations and in service to mankind. Surely, we can also be a national model for civility, kindness and responsible behavior.

We are fortunate to have Dr. Johnny Moore, our new vice president of student

affairs, at the helm of this new effort. He and Dr. Tom Johnson, associate dean of public service careers, have identified opportunities for improvement that range from “safety through environmental design” to new methods to document and identify visitors, students and employees.

A number of the new ideas are already being implemented. Tall shrubs and azaleas that were separating portions of our campus and reducing visibility were trimmed where possible or removed and replaced with low-profile plants, creating a more open and safe environment. Other landscape enhancements have been implemented in areas where large groups of students and non-students had been gathering and obstructing pedestrian pathways. An example of these changes is depicted in the photo to the left, where new plantings and modified planters now grace the area around the Rogers Student Center.

Beginning this Fall, students and employees will wear their identification cards on lanyards so that others know of their role at the College and so that visitors will be identifiable. Visitors are always welcome at our facilities and we want to treat them with respect and be



Landscape crews finish planting low-profile plants to replace tall azaleas near Rogers Student Center.



helpful while they're here. However, we realized during the past year that some visitors were taking advantage of our open and welcoming campus to engage in crime, so being able to readily identify whether someone is part of our TJC family will greatly enhance our campus climate.

Our students deserve the opportunity to learn, study and participate in a vibrant student life in an environment that fosters student success.

Additional security cameras are being installed to help monitor behavior and old benches are being replaced by quality metal tables to allow for study groups to gather in safe and secure areas.

One additional change that is a result of recommendations from the Student Senate and the Faculty Senate is to become a smoke-free college. Smoking will not be allowed at any TJC facility, including parking lots. By recommending a smoke-free policy, it is clear there is a desire to create a safe, clean and healthy environment and make TJC a healthier campus.

Furthermore, TJC is committed to providing a healthy working and learning environment and recognizes the increasing weight of scientific evidence that smoking is harmful not only to the active smoker but also to the "passive" smoker who is exposed to others' smoke. The purpose of this policy is to reduce harm from secondhand smoke, provide an environment that encourages persons to be smoke-free and establish a campus culture of wellness. Tyler Junior College is invested not only in academic achievement, but also in developing life skills that will promote individual and civic wellness. Higher education prepares students to cope with the reality of living situations. One emerging reality is that fewer and fewer spaces permit smoking. In growing numbers, worksites,



New wrought iron treatments along planters in front of Rogers Student Center add to the decor of the building while protecting the area from serving as a sitting area for large gatherings.

restaurants, public buildings, shopping malls, healthcare and transportation facilities are 100 percent smoke-free. In fact, a growing number of employers no longer hire anyone who smokes.

We have a responsibility to our students and employees to provide a safe and healthful environment.

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**"Our students deserve the opportunity to learn, study and participate in a vibrant student life in an environment that fosters student success."**

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Research actually shows that tobacco use in general, including smoking and breathing secondhand smoke, constitutes a significant health hazard. In addition to causing direct health hazards, smoking contributes to college costs in other ways, including potential fire damage, cleaning and maintenance costs, and costs

associated with absenteeism, health care, and medical insurance.

The result of all of these changes will be a more fit, friendly and inviting environment for our faculty, staff, students and visitors.

We have beautiful facilities and we want to show them off. With these new efforts, we'll be proud of the face we present to the public and I believe others will see us as a national model for a collegiate and collegial environment.



Signs informing the TJC community of new policies were installed during the summer.



## KHOSROWSHAHI NAMED TJC'S THIRD PIPER PROFESSOR

Tyler Junior College government professor Dr. Manoucher Khosrowshahi is the recipient of a Piper Professor Award.



Dr. Manoucher Khosrowshahi

Khosrowshahi is one of 15 statewide recipients of the 2010 Piper Professor Award given by the San Antonio-based Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. Since 1958, the Piper Foundation has awarded \$5,000 annually to professors for outstanding scholarly achievement and dedication to the teaching profession.

The award was presented to Dr. Khosrowshahi by TJC President Dr. Mike Metke during the TJC Board of Trustees meeting in May, along with congratulatory proclamations from Gov. Rick Perry and U.S. Sen. John Cornyn.

"I feel that the honor is for my college, colleagues and students," Khosrowshahi said. "Without a good support system in my college and my students' motivation, I would not have been able to bring the Piper Award to my college. Teaching is a

privilege, and I am privileged to teach at Tyler Junior College."

A professor at TJC since 1989, Khosrowshahi is an e-learning expert and has offered online courses since 1995. As a technology consultant, he has given many convocation speeches, and conducted technology training sessions for faculty and students across the country. He received his Ph.D. from the University of North Texas in Denton and received three post-doctoral fellowships from The University of Texas at Austin, Rice University and The United States Institute of Peace.

His fellow instructors, the administration, and his students regard him with the highest respect and admiration, as evidenced by his selection for the college's Endowed Chair for Teaching Excellence and the Mattie Alice Scroggin Baker Excellence in Teaching Award; and he has received the Excellence on

affiliate, the Texas Council for the Humanities. As a global education expert, he has extensive field work and travel experience in the Middle East, Far East and Near East. Partnering with The University of Texas at Tyler, Johnson County Community College (Kansas), Dallas Community College, and Sam Houston State University, he has launched travel/study programs in Turkey. Hundreds of students have participated in the program since 1998.

Khosrowshahi has been a consultant to the U.S. State Department, the National Security Educational Program of Defense Department and Department of Education. As part of his research in international education, he has traveled to Turkey (22 times since 1998), England, Japan, Thailand, Iran, Germany, Canada and Mexico. He is fluent in English, Azeri Turkish, Modern Turkish, Farsi and Arabic.

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**"Without a good support system in my college and my students' motivation, I would not have been able to bring the Piper Award to my college."**

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Education award twice from the TJC Student Senate. The City of Tyler awarded him the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Non-Violent Social Change in 2009. Khosrowshahi has been recognized eight times as a Master Teacher by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) of The University of Texas at Austin.

He is a selected speaker for the National Endowments for Humanities

Khosrowshahi is the third TJC Piper Award recipient. Dr. Alan Barnes, a TJC English professor and Phi Theta Kappa advisor, received the award in 2004; and Dr. Robert K. Peters III, former dean of University Studies and history/government professor, was a 1993 Piper Award winner.





# ON Campus

## RONDA SHIRLEY HIRED AS TJC HEAD VOLLEYBALL COACH

Ronda Shirley has been named the second head volleyball coach in Tyler Junior College history.

She replaces Dana Hatch, who started the TJC volleyball program in 1996 and

announced her retirement in May.

Shirley assumed her duties on July 1.

"We are thrilled to welcome Coach Shirley to our TJC family," said Dr. Tim Drain,

TJC director of intercollegiate athletics. "She comes from a well-respected school and program, and has had tremendous success on and off the court. Dana Hatch has left the program in great shape, and I know Ronda will come in and do a great job."

As head coach at Hutchinson (Kan.) Community College for 13 seasons, Shirley had a 346-158 record and guided the HCC volleyball team to five Region VI championships, five national tournament placings and four Jayhawk West Championships in the last six seasons.

Her teams have produced nine NJCAA All-Americans, 27 All-Region VI players, two Jayhawk West Freshman of the Year winners and HCC's first Jayhawk West Player of the Year.

She was the HCC all-time leader in coaching victories and won her 250th match at Hutchinson on Oct. 25, 2006. Her .681 winning percentage was also No. 1 in program history. Since 2001, Hutchinson has had more victories (306) than any Jayhawk Conference Western Division program.



Ronda Shirley

A native of Earling, Iowa, she graduated from Brown Mackie College in Salina, Kan., in 1992, and graduated from Kentucky Wesleyan College in Owensboro, Ky., in 1995. She and her husband, Jeff, have six children.

## TJC-RUSK TO OPEN THIS FALL

The Tyler Junior College Board of Trustees approved a new addition to the College's services to East Texas with an agreement to provide vocational nurse education (VNE) graduates to the area.

The partnership agreement between TJC, the Rusk Economic Development Corporation, the Rusk Industrial Foundation and Rusk State Hospital will allow the College to operate a nursing program at the Rusk State Hospital campus beginning this fall, with 20 students taking classes toward completion of VNE certificates.

Funding to assist the College with the creation of a TJC-Rusk facility was approved by the Rusk City Council on May 3. The program will be similar to programs offered at TJC-Jacksonville and TJC-Lindale, where there are additional cohorts of 20 VNE students.

The cost of the program is projected to be \$340,000 for the first two years, with \$245,000 being contributed by Rusk Economic Development Corporation (REDCO); and \$95,000 from Rusk Industrial Foundation.

The agreement calls for TJC to assume all costs and financial responsibility with the 2012-2013 budget year.

"We are excited about coming to Rusk with this program," said TJC Dean of



Dean of Nursing and Health Professions Paul Monagan explains the TJC-Rusk agreement and nursing program to members of the TJC Board of Trustees in May.

Nursing and Health Professions Paul Monagan. "The 20 students will be able to go online with all the programs offered students in Tyler. We will have one teacher for every 10 students— thus bringing two professors to the Rusk facility."

He predicted that when students graduate from the program and are licensed by the state, they will experience a 100-percent placement rate in full-time jobs.

The program will help provide qualified graduates to meet the growing need for licensed vocational nurses.

Ted Debbs, Rusk State Hospital superintendent, told council members that the hospital is always in need of certified nurses and presently has five vacant LVN positions.

Prospective students of the program are encouraged to contact the TJC School of Nursing and Health Professions for more information at 903-510-2662.





## TJC JOINS 'ACHIEVING THE DREAM' INITIATIVE

Signifying a commitment to student success and institutional improvement, Tyler Junior College has joined Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges Count. With support from the Greater Texas Foundation, TJC joins 25 other community colleges from around the country in becoming members of Achieving the Dream and identifying strategies to improve student success, close achievement gaps and increase retention, persistence, and completion rates.

Achieving the Dream is focused on creating a "culture of evidence" on community college campuses in which data collection and analysis drive efforts to identify problems that prevent students from succeeding, particularly low-income students and students of color.

"We are excited to be accepted to take part in the Achieving the Dream initiative. Through our participation, we will strengthen our efforts to create an environment at TJC where more students are successful in completing certificates and degrees," said TJC Provost Dr. Homer "Butch" Hayes.

"TJC will focus on developing a culture that identifies problems that keep students from being successful in remediation and beginning college-level course work," Hayes said.



**Achieving the Dream™**  
Community Colleges Count

## COLLEGE RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

TJC was recently recognized by the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

The College is among approximately 700 colleges and universities to be recognized for service to its community.

"Our nation's students are a critical part of the equation and vital to our efforts to tackle the most persistent challenges we face," said Patrick Corvington, CEO for the Corporation for National and Community Service.

In 2009, 3.16 million college students performed more than 300 million hours of service. At TJC, more than 25,000 hours of service work were documented.

## SCHOOL NAMES CHANGED TO REFLECT REALIGNMENT

The College has recently changed the names of several of its schools of study. The name changes were determined by Provost Dr. Homer "Butch" Hayes after meetings with faculty. Hayes said the realignment will create more equitable supervisory responsibilities at the deans' levels while reflecting the latest trends in higher education.

The School of University Studies is now the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Allied Health and Nursing is now the School of Nursing and Health Professions; College Preparatory Studies is now the School of Academic Foundations; and Applied Studies is now the School of Professional and Technical Programs. The School of Continuing Studies remains unchanged.

## MOORE NAMED VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dr. Johnny Moore was named TJC vice president for student affairs earlier this year, succeeding Dr. Austin Lane who was named president of Lone Star College-Montgomery.



**Dr. Johnny Moore**

Moore oversees all aspects of the student experience at TJC, from orientation to graduation. The student affairs division encompasses the departments of admissions, advising, athletics, financial aid, registrar, student life and involvement, residential life, student organizations, judicial programs, career services, support services, tutoring and testing.

From 1994 until he joined TJC, Moore was at Indian River State College in Fort Pierce, Fla., where he rose through the ranks from math instructor, assistant professor, associate professor and full professor/mathematics department chair to vice president of student affairs.

A native of Hope, Ark., Moore graduated in 1985 from Washington-Lincoln High School as class valedictorian. He was an all-state basketball player and scored nearly 2,000 points and is still the all-time leading scorer in the school's history.

He received his Master of Science degree in mathematics from Arkansas State University and a Ph.D. in math education from the Florida Institute of Technology. He and his wife, Sequoyah, have a son, Johnathan.



# ON Campus

## DONATION MAKES GENECOV RENOVATION POSSIBLE

Thanks to an anonymous gift of \$335,000, the College will begin renovation of biology and chemistry labs in the Aleck Genecov Science Building in Spring 2011.

The gift will pay for upgrades to nine labs in the two-and-a-half-story structure, bringing them to state-of-the-art capabilities. Maintenance funds will be paired with the donation so that additional renovation may take place, including foundation repairs along the south wall.

"This is a needed project and the gift comes at a perfect time, as we're working to upgrade our main campus and make upgrades to our infrastructure that will prepare us for many years," said TJC President Dr. Mike Metke.

Genecov was completed in 1975. This is its first significant renovation project.

Genecov was built with the assistance of a federal grant, with the necessary balance coming from private sources. Because of his substantial financial support, the building was named in honor of Aleck Genecov. Originally, Genecov housed the science program, art program and the TJC band hall.

The band moved to its current practice facility when the Health and Physical Education Building was constructed in 1987. The HPE building was renamed the Joseph Z. and Louise H. Ornelas Health and Physical Education Center in 1996 after a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Ornelas.

The College's art department was moved to Jenkins Hall in 1994 after the renovation and expansion of Jenkins Hall.



TJC will have a portable village on its main campus for the next year as renovations take place in the Genecov Science Building. The portable buildings are located in the 1900 block of East Devine Street.

As a result of construction, Genecov will be closed for approximately 16 months. Faculty offices and classes will be moved to alternate locations, including portable buildings on loan from the Tyler Independent School District.

The portables were being moved to TJC-owned property along Devine Street during the summer months.

"We truly appreciate our great partners at TISD for allowing us to utilize the portable buildings," said Metke. "Our thanks go out to Superintendent Dr. Randy Reid and the TISD Board."

Plans are for classes in Genecov to resume in the Spring of 2012.

## Dr. Metke Joins Travel Study Trip to Turkey



Government Professor Dr. Manoucher Khosrowshahi and TJC President Dr. Mike Metke at the Hierapolis Theater in the Pamukkale region of western Turkey. "Dr. K", as he is known, took an educational tour group to the region for the 22nd time in March.



# GO Apaches

## ANONYMOUS GIFT BRINGS TURF TO HARTLEY FIELD

One of two soccer fields at Pat Hartley Field will sport artificial turf after construction is complete this summer.

The field to receive turf is the west field and it will be striped for both soccer and football. The Apache football team will utilize the turf field for practices while men's and women's soccer teams will practice and play home matches there if rain prevents use of the east field, which will remain natural grass.

The project was made possible because of an anonymous gift. The field will also be used as a practice facility by the Apache Marching Band.

If private funding were secured, the College would consider moving Apache football home games to the field, said

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**“Just having this turf field helps the band, will reduce maintenance costs to the facility and will give football and soccer an additional option if rain is a problem.”**

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Dr. Tim Drain, director of intercollegiate athletics.

“We have discussed the attraction of having home football games played on our main campus and we would love to see that happen if the circumstances allow it,” Drain said. “But just having this turf field helps the band, will reduce



Thanks to an anonymous gift, one soccer field at Pat Hartley Field is being covered with turf this summer.

maintenance costs to the facility and will give football and soccer an additional option if rain is a problem.”

Construction is to be completed by the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year.

## MAINTENANCE FUNDS MAKE WAGSTAFF ADDITIONS POSSIBLE

The long-anticipated Phase II of the Wagstaff Gym renovation is under way and should be complete by Nov. 1.

The gym is being expanded to provide new and additional locker rooms to better accommodate men's and women's athletics.

“When the work is finished, Wagstaff Gym will be among the finest facilities anywhere in our region,” said Bill King, executive director of facilities and construction.

When it is reopened to serve as home to men's and women's basketball

and women's volleyball, Wagstaff will feature a new concessions area, an athletic advisor office, a computer study lab, an athletes' lounge, a conference room, a special events room, renovated coaches' offices and a renovated Wagstaff Museum.

The Wagstaff playing surface and gymnasium seating were renovated in 2007.



A long-awaited renovation to historic Wagstaff Gym is under way and should be completed by November.



## A Year of Championships

### TJC WOMEN'S SOCCER

When the College decided to add women's soccer to its array of student life opportunities in 2008, it had an immediate impact on enrollment and in the lives of young women with a talent for the sport. Who knew the squad would have such an immediate impact on a national scale?

After a stellar debut season that saw the ladies win 12 and lose just 3 and tie once, no one would have been surprised to see the 2009 team finish with a similar record. A championship may not have seemed like a realistic expectation – except for Head Coach Corey Rose.

"We talked to them at the beginning and we told them we thought they were the best team in the country with the talent we had," Rose said.

Before a loud and excited crowd that included other TJC athletes cheering for their classmates, the women's soccer team continued its Cinderella sophomore season by defeating Johnson County Community College (Kan.), 3-0 at Pat Hartley Field to claim TJC's first national title in women's soccer.

The TJC ladies finished the season with 19 wins, no losses and just one tie.

Neither the women's or men's soccer teams lost a match all season.

The women's team will begin defense of the 2009 championship on Aug. 21 at 7 p.m. at Pat Hartley Field when they take on Midwestern State University.



The 2009 Apache men's soccer team finished with 20 wins, no losses and one tie.

### TJC MEN'S SOCCER

The Apache men's soccer team had advanced to the national tournament on four previous occasions, only to see the spotlight fade before the final horn.

The scene was much different in 2009. Just hours after the TJC women won their first-ever national title, the men's team clinched a title of their own by defeating No. 2 ranked Georgia Perimeter in a 5-3 shootout. The teams had played to a scoreless tie through regulation and overtime.

"In the second half we came out to play," said Coach Steve Clements.

Clements had previously coached a national championship team in 2000 when Meridian (Miss.) Community College clinched the title. This championship was much different but even sweeter for Coach Clements.

"It was just a great group of people," he said. "They just worked really hard and new when it was time to step it up."

Clements said his '03 Meridian team won be scoring. "With this team, the wins didn't come that easy. But it was a team with great chemistry that didn't give up. They conducted themselves the way you'd want a team to conduct themselves and worked well together."

Clements said he looks forward to defending the national title with the opportunity to play in a national tournament on the Apaches' home field. Pat Hartley Field will host the NJCAA Division I men's national title in November.

"We lost some good talent, some great sophomores. But knowing what it is like to be in a championship goes a long way. Half of this team coming in knows what it takes to win a championship. It is just a matter of getting them motivated."

The 2010 squad opens play against Louisiana State University-Shreveport at Pat Hartley Field at 7 p.m. on Aug. 24.



2009 was a monumental year for Coach Rose's national champions.



# GO Apaches

## TJC WOMEN'S TENNIS

The 2009-10 TJC women's tennis team proved that players from all over the world can come together to create a championship atmosphere.

The ladies entered the National Junior College Athletic Association tournament in Tucson, Ariz. ranked tops in the nation and sporting players from the U.S., Ukraine, China, Greece, Poland and Israel.

The diverse and talented team proved that their ranking was no fluke, winning every dual match and eight of nine semifinal matches in the championship tourney to claim the college's 14th national title in women's tennis.

"This was a strong, deep team and they play really hard for each other and they care about each other a lot," said Head Coach John Peterson. "I've never had a more dominating performance out of a team."

The team was comprised of: Antonia Kolovou from Greece; Masha Slupska from Ukraine; Anna Zurek from Poland; Sun Wen from China; Brooke Dennis, Abilene; Casey Bulls, Tyler; Julie Bell, Lubbock; Hagar Caro, Israel; Natalie Hand, Van; Kendra Casey, Franklin; and Catherine Weber, Harlingen.

The women's national tennis tournament will return to Tucson next year and will move to the JoAnn Medlock Murphy Tennis Center and the Louise Brookshire Community Tennis Courts on the TJC main campus in 2012.



Head Coach John Peterson, right, poses with his championship women's tennis team and trainer Eddy McGuire, center, and Assistant Coach Dash Connell, far left.

## TJC MEN'S TENNIS

Unlike the women's team, the TJC men's tennis squad didn't enter the national championship tournament as a favorite to win it all.

In fact, the 2009-10 season had its rocky moments.

"Our team has learned to be fighters," Head Coach John Peterson said heading into the tournament in Plano. "They are a group of scrappers now."

It took every bit of their might to hold off two strong challenging squads – Laredo Community College and Collin County Community College – and finish with a shared national title. With a little more luck and a few different bounces, TJC might have left Plano without having to share its 22nd national title.

"We wanted to win it outright," Peterson said. "Our players were bitterly disappointed. We wanted to take the whole thing ourselves. But, it will sink in that we are national champions."

Again.

The TJC men's team for the year was: Austin Adams, Amarillo; Billy Bishop, Houston; John Devose, Germany; Austin Fowler, Lubbock; Aleks Bragovic, Slovenia; Mario Jakovljevic, Croatia; Abraham Lascari, Mexico; Colby Meeks, San Angelo; Pier Pieracciani, Brazil; Anmol Ramdhawa, Australia; Stanislas Rodier, Tyler; Paulo Roessle, Brazil; Adam Taylor, Canada; Peter Thomason, Amarillo; Augusto Velez, Peru; and Gianmarco Velez, Peru.



The 2010 Apache men's tennis team won a national title for the 14th time in TJC history.



# Phi Theta Kappa Year Was Like a 'Championship'

By Fred M. Peters  
Director, Marketing & Public Affairs



**Promise No. 1: A Quality Education**



The biggest headlines associated with colleges and universities these days are usually devoted to sports accomplishments and athletic rivalries.

And even though TJC did claim four national athletic titles during the year – that’s right, four in one year – those championships cannot match the feelings the year’s academic achievements brought to TJC, President Dr. Mike Metke said.

“I can’t tell you how proud I felt to be a part of a national conference and to hear TJC mentioned so many times for so many honors,” he said. “It was like winning the national championship in academics.”

Metke attended the American Association of Community Colleges conference in Seattle along with Phi Theta Kappa sponsors Gigi Delk and Dr. Alan Barnes and pre-nursing major Luke Bazil.

Bazil was one of 20 students to be named to the All-USA Community College Academic Team by Phi Theta Kappa and USA Today. His presence at the AACCC convention was recognized at the President’s Breakfast. Bazil was highlighted in an article in that morning’s USA Today and received a \$2,500 scholarship.

The following day, Bazil was one of a handful of All-USA students selected to meet with Melinda Gates and other representatives of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Bazil’s honors were icing on the cake for the best year ever for Alpha Omicron, TJC’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

The honors accumulated during the year for Alpha Omicron and its students read like a lifetime achievement introduction.



Gigi Delk helps Luke Bazil show the awards he earned during the April TJC Board of Trustee meeting.

In April, at the Phi Theta Kappa international convention in Orlando, Alpha Omicron was awarded a Service Hallmark indicating the chapter’s service programs and initiatives ranked in the top 25 in the nation, a Top 100 Chapters award and a 2010 Distinguished Chapter designation.

Chapter officer Darren VanMeter was named one of 30 Distinguished Members nationwide during the International Hallmark awards. Regional President Matt Oates was recognized for his leadership efforts, which resulted in Texas being named a 2010 Distinguished Region.

Bazil was named the state’s lone selection as Coca-Cola Foundation New Century Scholar, an honor that includes a \$2,000 scholarship. And, Bazil and classmate Melanie Bishop were named the only Texas Guistwhite scholars. The Guistwhite scholarship program recognizes 20 students nationwide. Each Guistwhite Scholar is awarded a \$5,000 scholarship for baccalaureate studies. Also, Bishop and Danielle Robinson were named Coca Cola Gold Scholars and will receive a \$1,500 scholarship to continue their baccalaureate studies.

In March, Bazil, Bishop, VanMeter and Robinson were selected Phi Theta

Kappa All-Texas honorees. Each All-Texas selection receives an offer for a full scholarship to the University of Texas at Arlington.

Perhaps it is more than ironic that all four TJC All-Texas representatives were also nominated by TJC faculty to receive Promises to Keep scholarships last Fall. More than one hundred students were selected for Promises to Keep scholarships for the Spring semester, awards of \$1,000 to assist with college expenses.

Bishop – whose husband, Ryan, was killed in Iraq in 2007 – describes the scholarship as “a blessing!”

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**“One thing that really stands out: the TJC faculty and staff are incredible.”**

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“I was not able to receive my GI Bill for the Spring 2010 semester because I only had to take one class to graduate. I was able to pay my tuition and make the Dean’s List because of this scholarship.”

Bishop said her husband had recommended TJC to her. A 1996 graduate, Ryan Bishop had majored in surveying and mapping at TJC.

*(continued on page 14)*



"I chose to be involved in Phi Theta Kappa because I lost my husband to the war in Iraq and I wanted to give back to the community and develop my leadership skills so that I could carry on the legacy that Ryan had left behind. I was excited to receive an invitation to join Phi Theta Kappa in Spring 2009. My participation in Phi Theta Kappa led me to become chapter president, to the nomination and participation in the International Scholar Laureate Program Delegation on Medicine in South Africa last summer, and to receive scholarships such as the Guistwhite and Coca-Cola Gold Team, that will help pay for my university studies," she said.

"One thing that really stands out: the TJC faculty and staff are incredible. Without the support of Judith Batemen, Gigi Delk, Betsy Ott, Rodney Whetzel, Gene Branum, and Alan Barnes, I don't know where I would be. I do know that I would not have accomplished so much without these wonderful people."

Bishop plans to transfer to Austin College and major in biochemistry. Her goal is to become a physician and participate in genetic research.

"I am proud to say that the students at Tyler Junior College are recognized on every level for their excellent academic preparation, for their commitment to community service, and for the exemplary leadership they display at the collegiate, community and national level," said Gigi Delk, a long-time Alpha Omicron sponsor and professor of computer information systems and gaming and simulation development. "There are over 1,200 Phi Theta Kappa chapters internationally, and the Alpha Omicron chapter at Tyler Junior College is consistently ranked among the top 25 chapters in the nation based on the chapter's scholarship, leadership, and service activities.



Melanie Bishop poses with Dr. Metke, left, and the Board President Lonny Uzzell in May.

"Our chapter has a rich history of community service, and an even richer monetary history of scholarships awarded for All-USA Academic Team members, Guistwhite Scholars, and Coca Cola Foundation scholars. Chapter members have received thousands of dollars in Texas STAR scholarships and Promises to Keep scholarships to continue their education at TJC, and many have received full academic scholarships or thousands of dollars in renewable scholarship funds to further their studies at prestigious senior universities. Prospective students could not ask for a more nurturing environment for fostering academic excellence

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**"This group of Phi Theta Kappans has not only been responsible and hard-working but also a tremendously fun group with which to work."**

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and world-class leadership skills than the vibrant student leadership experiences offered at TJC."

Bazil, who worked as a paramedic during his TJC studies – often working shifts that ended after midnight – is grateful not only for the recognition and scholarships, but that he chose to become involved on campus.

"The main reason I originally joined Phi Theta Kappa was for scholarships," he said. Looking back I am glad I did

join, not just because of scholarships but because of the many friends I have made. Before I became a member of Phi Theta Kappa, I really didn't do anything or have any friends on campus. I would just show up to class and as soon as they were done I would be out of there. Being in Phi Theta Kappa kept me a lot more involved with on campus things, community service, and gave me many opportunities to travel around Texas and the USA."

Bazil praised biology professors Josephine Coursey and Dr. Lynn Gray for their academic preparation.

"They are the instructors who really motivated me and pushed me. Their classes were definitely the hardest I had to take, but were the ones that I enjoyed the most. They are awesome instructors and I just wish that I could have had them for more classes," he said.

"Also, if it weren't for Gigi Delk I wouldn't have received half of the awards and honors that I have received. She is an amazing person and I really don't know how she does everything she does."

Bazil is transferring to the University of Texas at Tyler, where he will apply the Guistwhite, New Century, and All USA Academic Team scholarships to further his education. He plans to major in nursing and complete his studies to become a nurse anesthetist.

"This group of Phi Theta Kappans has been not only been responsible and hard-working but also a tremendously fun group with which to work," said Shannon Cross, Phi Theta Kappa sponsor and a TJC English professor. "Much of the praise for Alpha Omicron's success goes to Gigi Delk, however. She is the driving force behind scholarship searches, leadership opportunities, service projects, and successful conference experiences."

Fellow sponsor Dr. Alan Barnes agrees. "For me, the best part of being an advisor for Phi Theta Kappa is the time

*(continued on page 32)*



# WE ARE KEEPING OUR PROMISES.

*Tyler Junior College was the most-decorated among more than 1,100 community colleges at two recent international conventions: the 2010 Phi Theta Kappa International Convention and the annual American Association of Community Colleges.*

**We would like to congratulate our students for their nationally recognized academic achievements.**

Phi Theta Kappa TJC Alpha Omicron Chapter members and sponsors (L-R)  
Melanie Bishop, Shannon Cross,  
Darren Vanmeter, Luke Bazil,  
Danielle Robinson, Dr. Alan Barnes  
and Gigi Delk.



All four of TJC's All-Texas Academic Team representatives are also beneficiaries of

## **Promises to Keep Scholarships**

created by generous gifts provided during the last year.

We extend appreciation to the contributors who made those scholarships possible.

- Luke Bazil, All-USA Academic Team (one of 20 nationwide)
- Luke Bazil and Melanie Bishop, Guistwhite Scholars (two of 20 internationally)
- Luke Bazil, Coca-Cola Foundation New Century Scholar (only Texas representative)

- Luke Bazil, Melanie Bishop, Darren Vanmeter, Danielle Robinson, All-Texas Academic Team
- Melanie Bishop and Danielle Robinson, Coca-Cola Gold Scholars (two of 20 internationally)

There is no greater privilege than fulfilling TJC's Promise Number One  
- *A Quality Education.*

**Thanks to the citizens of Tyler and East Texas for making TJC the community's college.**

Tyler Junior College Mission Statement: To provide a comprehensive collegiate experience that is anchored in the rich traditions of a quality education, vibrant student life and community service. Accreditation: Tyler Junior College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Tyler Junior College. Tyler Junior College gives equal consideration to all applicants for admission, employment and participation in its programs and activities without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, veteran status or limited English proficiency (LEP).

*For a list of other achievements of TJC's Phi Theta Kappa honor society chapter, visit [www.tjc.edu/promiseone](http://www.tjc.edu/promiseone).*



**TYLER  
JUNIOR  
COLLEGE**



**AL GILLIAM WING DEDICATION**

**April 17, 2010**

**Ornelas Residential Complex**



**GEORGE FOREMAN VISITS TJC**

**December 11, 2009**

**TJC Main Campus**





**TYLER ALUMNI MEMBERS  
CHAPTER PARTY**

**JUNE 17, 2010**

**COYOTE SAM'S BAR AND GRILL**



**U.S. SEN. JOHN CORNYN VISITS TJC**

**JUNE 1, 2010**

**TJC West Campus**





# Foundation NEWS

## PUTTING THEIR MONEY WHERE THEIR HEARTS ARE

Tyler Junior College scholarships are often the result of passionate community members who want to see students succeed in an area that is meaningful to them.

The new Social Science Department Scholarship of Excellence is the result of perhaps those most dedicated to student success at TJC— the faculty. Faculty from the College's social sciences department funded this \$25,000 endowed scholarship award personally. Every dollar comes from textbook royalties to which faculty members contributed. Key faculty involved in establishing the scholarship endowment included Dr. Gene Kirkpatrick, Dr. Peter Jones, Shannon Cross, David Ligon, Steve Burket and department chair Geoffrey Willbanks.

"We receive monies from our history and government textbooks," said Willbanks. "The books are the standard books with added materials supplied by various faculty. The money was not 'earned' by any one member of the department; it was an effort of several members who contributed study information to be included in the textbook."

The faculty worked together to establish the criteria for selecting deserving recipients of the Social Science Department Scholarship of Excellence and decided that the scholarship will be awarded to sophomore students who have participated and excelled in TJC's social science programs. The first scholarship was given at the recent Honors Day Ceremony



Social Science faculty and recipients of the 2010 Social Science Department Scholarships of Excellence at recent TJC School of Liberal Arts and Sciences Honors Day Program.

(L to R) Back row- Frank Rucker, Dr. Gene Kirkpatrick, Department Chair Geoffrey Willbanks, Dr. Jeffrey Owens/Second row- Aisyah Yuliani, Jan McCauley, Shannon Cross, Sharif Batnij, Front row- David Ligon

for Liberal Arts and Sciences students. American history professor Jan McCauley is keen on the importance of social science studies. "Listen to the news and you'll quickly know that we desperately need to understand the world we live in and share with others," she said. History professor Shannon Cross concurred, "When we

students who have the right motivation and skills and apply themselves in the right manner. They push on in the face of family, job, education and money issues. Our successful students have demonstrated the most important trait: persistence."

The faculty members also reflect the importance of persistent dedication.

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**"We want to acknowledge and reward students who show traits of success."**

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understand from where we have come and how we have reached this point, we have a better basis from which to make decisions in the present."

"We want to acknowledge and reward students who show traits of success," said Willbanks. "TJC is blessed with a sizeable group of

faculty who are there to research. We want to reach students," said Willbanks. With this scholarship, they are modeling that message in a creative and effective way. Their dedication and generosity will be seen in the impact they have on future students.

"As professors at the community college level, we have chosen to teach, versus many university



## THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TYLER WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP

We expect gifts on our birthdays. But when the Junior League of Tyler celebrates an anniversary, the giving flows outward. In honor of its 60th anniversary, Junior League of Tyler has given \$60,000 to establish a scholarship to benefit Smith County women returning to higher education at Tyler Junior College.

"This scholarship is a perfect way to fulfill our mission statement," said Junior League president Andy Wells. The League is "an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers."

In 1950, 13 sponsors and 32 charter members met to organize the League. Throughout their 2009-2010 year, the

Leann Strnadel, a past president of the League, chaired a committee of six women to propose a community gift to celebrate the anniversary. "We believe in developing the potential of women," Strnadel said. "This scholarship helps women develop their potential for being better members of society, better mothers, better workers, better volunteers in the future."

Priority consideration to receive the Junior League scholarship will go to clients of non-profit organizations. "Through our efforts in volunteering with East Texas Crisis Center, Christian Women's Job Corps and Literacy



Back Row: Katie Powell, Judie Bower, Mary Leigh Roberts, Terri Smith, Terri Good Front Row: Crysti LaRocca, Liz Ballard, Sharon Wynne, Andy Wells, Stacy Bengtson, Gillian Sheridan.

Scholarships were awarded this past spring during the anniversary year; the remainder of the League gift will establish an endowment so two scholarships per year can be awarded in perpetuity.

Recipients of the scholarship won't walk alone. "Hundreds of women stand behind them with pride and excitement as they pursue their dreams," Strnadel said.

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**"...we have seen examples of women who just need a little help to reach their dreams. Junior League is thrilled to partner with these women and TJC to help them make their dreams a reality."**

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Junior League of Tyler has given more than \$6 million and thousands of volunteers hours to better the community (\$375,000 and 20,000 hours in 2009 alone). It now comprises nearly 800 members and continues to grow in membership and community outreach.

The Junior League and Tyler Junior College share the same goals and commitment to the community.

Council, we have seen examples of women who just need a little help to reach their dreams. Junior League is thrilled to partner with these women and TJC to help them make their dreams a reality," Strnadel said. "It's not easy to go back into this setting later in life when school isn't your only responsibility," said Wells.



With record enrollment at TJC,  
scholarships are crucial.

To learn more about scholarship  
opportunities, please contact the  
Tyler Junior College Foundation at  
903-510-2382 or visit  
[www.tjc.edu/foundation](http://www.tjc.edu/foundation).



# Foundation NEWS

## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE— THE FUN WAY

Thirty-three students will receive \$1,000 scholarships to Tyler Junior College because of the 22nd Annual TJC Foundation Scholarship Golf Tournament, held September 10, 2009, at Eagle's Bluff Country Club. A record 68 sponsors contributed to the successful event, which also featured lunch with D.D. Lewis, former Dallas Cowboys linebacker.

Lewis spoke about his career and the impact teachers and coaches had on his life. "He gave an inspiring testimony," said Rohn Boone, 2009 tournament chair. "He took advantage of the opportunity he had for a quality education, had a career with the Cowboys and played in five Super Bowls. He encouraged donors to give other young men and women an opportunity for a good education and urged everyone to

format and then attended an awards reception under the Oasis Tent, sponsored by Luminant Academy.

Scholarship funding at Tyler Junior College is more urgent today than ever before. The economic downturn has caused students to rethink their college plans and many turn to TJC to begin their higher education before transferring to complete their degrees. Students are also returning to the College for additional training or to pursue alternate careers due to the current economic climate. Across the nation, community colleges have become the lifeboat for higher education, and TJC is experiencing its highest enrollment in its 83-year history. With this growth comes an increased need for scholarships, since more than 50 percent of



1st place team includes, from left to right, Mike Pile, Chris Ewert, Steve Simmons, Don Robert Johnson, Jeff King and John Moss.

best values available for students in the country. My education at TJC had a tremendous impact on my life and helped me reach the personal goals and success in business I have achieved."

Jerry Woolverton, president of Tyler Texas Bank and Trust, TJC Foundation Board member and lunch co-sponsor, concurred. "No other community college I know provides such a full college experience. The campus is beautiful, the facilities are either new or being continually upgraded and the faculty is committed and experienced."

Proceeds from last year's tournament provided 33 \$1,000 scholarships to TJC students. For the upcoming HGR General Contractors Scholarship Golf Tournament benefitting the TJC Foundation, the goal is to raise \$40,000 or more in much-needed scholarship funds. When asked about the impact of TJC and tournament scholarships on the community, Boone said, "Look around at the doctors' and dentists' offices, the pharmacies, the fire and police department, emergency services or the sheriff's office. You'll see productive employees trained at Tyler Junior College."



D. D. Lewis with 2009 recipients of TJC Foundation Golf Tournament Scholarships

make the most of their own opportunities to overcome obstacles in their lives."

Boone & Boone Construction, Ltd., and Tyler Texas Bank and Trust co-sponsored the tournament luncheon. Six-person teams played in a scramble

Tyler Junior College students need financial aid to pursue their education.

"I can think of no better investment, with any greater returns, than in a student scholarship at TJC," said Boone, who is also a TJC trustee. "An education at the College is one of the



# Foundation NEWS

## HGR General Contractors Scholarship Golf Tournament Benefitting the TJC Foundation

### Date:

Thursday, Sept. 9, 2010

### Place:

Eagle's Bluff Country Club

### Format:

Six-player teams, scramble

### Special tournament guest:

Award-winning football coach,  
Brad McCoy.

Brad led the 2009 Graham High School Steers to the Texas Class 3A Division II finals with his son, Case, as quarterback. Case was recently recruited to play college ball for the University of Texas Longhorns. Brad's oldest son, Colt, is a Longhorns legend, Heisman trophy finalist, All-American and was drafted by the Cleveland Browns. Brad now works with The Flippen Group, a Texas-based company that specializes in talent development and organizational strategies for athletic programs and corporations nationwide. He will speak at the pre-tournament luncheon about the role the "intentional parent/teacher" plays in helping young people realize their full potential.



Brad McCoy (right) at Longhorns' football game with Colt and his wife, Debra

Invitations for the upcoming tournament were mailed in June, and you can get a jump on signing up to play or sponsor by contacting Mitch Andrews with the TJC Foundation (903-510-2034 or mand@tjc.edu).

## Your Generosity Changes Lives

Since 1926, TJC has strived to honor **Three Promises** to Tyler and East Texas - a quality education, a vibrant student life and community service. In its 22nd year, the TJC Foundation Scholarship Golf Tournament helped the College fulfill its promises by providing much-needed scholarships.

Thank you to the many individuals and organizations who sponsored the 2009 tournament. Your generosity helped change lives.

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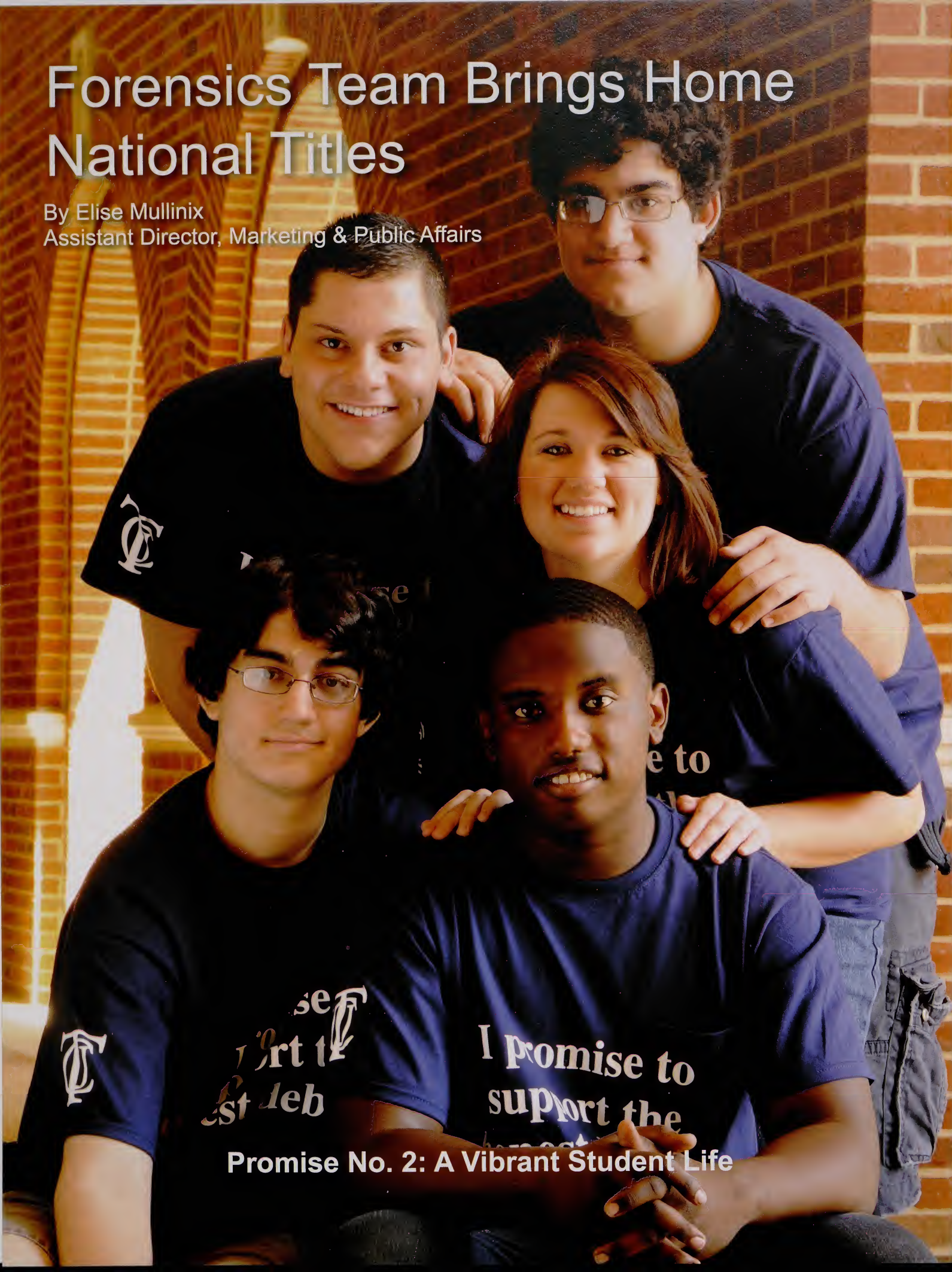
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[www.tjc.edu/foundation](http://www.tjc.edu/foundation)  
903-510-2034



# Forensics Team Brings Home National Titles

By Elise Mullinix  
Assistant Director, Marketing & Public Affairs



Promise No. 2: A Vibrant Student Life



**T**he effectiveness of U.N. sanctions on Iran? Debatable. The long-term probability of Sarah Jessica Parker's influence on fashion and pop culture? Also somewhat debatable.

What is not up for debate is that Tyler Junior College's forensics team had a season for the record books.

Not only did the six-member squad interpret, debate and persuade its way to a slew of individual honors and a national title – being named the Community College National Championship team by the American Forensic Association – it also brought home the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament for Community Colleges' Mariner Award, which was a TJC first.

The Mariner Award was given for the TJC forensics team's cumulative sweepstakes scores over the last three decades.

Team coach M'Liss Hindman said, "We have been competing at Phi Rho Pi for 34 years and finally became the first Texas school with an active forensics program to win this prestigious award.

"So, earning the Mariner is a tribute not only to the six students on this year's team but also for the hundreds of previous years' students who competed at Phi Rho Pi and to Jacque Shackelford, who coached the team for more than 25 years."

Members of the 2009-10 team were: Justin Charles of Gilmer, Alex Hatoum of Lindale, Daniel Hatoum of Lindale, Jawoine Hawkins of Grand Prairie, Jessica Peters of Lindale, and Austin Witherspoon of Longview. Peters and Witherspoon were co-captains.

"Our motto this year was 'Do what you do and be proud of what you do,'" Justin Charles said. "We used this philosophy not only to win nationals but also improve ourselves as speakers."

As a theater major, Charles joined the forensics team to elevate his game on the stage.



At the TJC Board of Trustees meeting in April, forensics team members and sponsor M'Liss Hindman are recognized for their stellar 2009-10 season. Pictured, from left: Alex Hatoum, Austin Witherspoon, Justin Charles, Hindman, Jessica Peters, Jawoine Hawkins and Daniel Hatoum.

"I honestly feel that by being on this team and competing, I've gained so much more confidence and knowledge within myself than I have in any theater production," he said. "In theater, you work within a company of actors; but in forensics, we are a team but we compete independently. It pushes you in a different way."

Peters agrees with the practical applications of forensics.

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"Our motto this year was  
'Do what you do and be proud of  
what you do'."

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"I'm graduating with an associate's degree in surgical technology," she said, "and much of what I've learned in speech and debate – as far as communication is concerned – is really important in the hospital, too."

She plans to transfer to a four-year university and continue to compete in forensics.

One of the keys to performing well, she said, is to find a topic you feel passionate about, do your research and practice. And practice. And practice some more.

"I had always been interested in the 1920s and the women from that era," she

said, "so I started Googling movies and looking up literature and New York Times archives, and pieced it together until it made sense to me."

Peters' end result was "20/20", a thought-provoking contrast of Julie Andrews' light-hearted, flapper musical "Thoroughly Modern Millie" versus the brutality of the women's suffrage movement.

During the fall and spring semesters, the team competed successfully in 20 speech and debate tournaments; and Charles said that much of the team's ability to win was attributed to stamina.

"It really does come down to what students can get up at 8 a.m., and compete round after round and, by 9 p.m., still keep the energy in their performance," he said. "It's a marathon."

In early April, the team completed the competitive qualification system for the American Forensic Association's university-level national tournament held in Eau Claire, Wis., and won the title of Community College Sweepstakes National Champion.

Hindman said, "Students have to qualify to attend this tournament. It is difficult to qualify because it involves placing in numerous tournaments throughout the year. There were 78 universities and

*TJC forensics team members are a tight-knit group, having logged many miles together over the past year as they participated in competitions all over the country.*

*(continued on page 32)*



# Promise Three is More Than Just Volunteering

By Fred M. Peters

Director, Marketing & Public Affairs



Promise No. 3: Community Service



Community service means different things to different people. When noted educational writer Arthur Cohen wrote his first edition of one of the premier books about America's community colleges in 1982, he identified community service as cultural events, workshops and non-credit courses.

To many TJC students, however, community service often means participating in a fund-raiser, helping with a neighborhood clean-up project, giving blood or encouraging others to vote.

However you define it, you don't have to look far to find community service being carried out each day at TJC.

Students regularly initiate their own community service efforts, like when freshman Sheryl Mason decided to donate her hair to Locks of Love in April or when students in Don Blaine's leadership class decided three years ago that the Make-A-Wish Foundation should be an annual project.



Sheryl Mason

Other service efforts arise out of the College's willingness to provide the use of its facilities and experts to the community.

During its 2009 fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30, the TJC Small Business Development Center met with 175 clients and provided loan and investment services to 29 clients for a total of \$21.5 million in loans and investment. As of June 1, the SBDC had met with an additional 148 clients this fiscal year, including 18 loan and investment clients who received \$21 million in assistance.

"Prior to our 2009 results, the 23-year standing record for any of the 18 small business centers in the North Texas Region was just under \$17 million in loans and investment," said Don Proudfoot, director of the SBDC.

Proudfoot attributes the increased success to a variety of factors.

"The SBA program for guaranteed loans has been very important during this time of tight credit and has helped us do more deals for clients," he said. "The Tyler area is still expanding throughout a very difficult economic period and more people are considering owning their own business to bring more stability to their family."

The services he and the SBDC provide aren't the only community services being offered on the West Campus. Adjacent to SBDC is the Tyler Area Business Incubator, where 15 small businesses are receiving consultation and have low overhead as they work to take their businesses from concept to mainstay.

"Most of my graduates are still in business," says TABI Director Tony Tadasa. "I have a couple of current clients that have a possibility of making it big. I think we're doing a lot of things right. It is not unusual for another city to come visit us before

education and civic involvement," said Dr. Aubrey Sharpe, dean of continuing studies. "To us, community service isn't just participating in volunteer activities, it is total engagement with the community."

The School of Continuing Studies keeps track of the number of times it engages with the community for such service and even though it declined slightly in 2009, it served nearly 21,000 individuals, said Mona Henderson, assistant dean.

Other community service efforts have historically not always been so well-documented.

In February, TJC was once again named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, a distinction that recognizes the College's documented service hours and initiatives from August 2008 through July 2009. During that time span, TJC students provided more than 25,000 hours of documented volunteer work.

Initiatives included assisting with the TJC relief shelter for displaced nursing home residents affected by hurricanes Edouard and Gustav, picking up litter along highways in four TJC-adopted zones, and performing dental hygiene services at the TJC dental clinic. There were many more projects taken on by

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**"We have an obligation to serve our community in ways that benefit business, education and civic involvement."**

---

their opening their own incubator."

The West Campus is also a regular meeting place for many not-for-profit organizations, government agencies and educational providers like the Tyler Independent School District. Use of the facilities for these organizations is usually free of charge.

"We have an obligation to serve our community in ways that benefit business,

student organizations, faculty and staff during that period, some of which were never documented for recognition.

"When undergoing our self-study for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools re-affirmation process, we discovered a new standard regarding community/public service," said Marian Jackson, director of library services. "In light of our Promise Number 3, we knew

(continued on page 26)

*Tyler dentist Dr. John Adcock is assisted by Kristy Howell, TJC dental hygiene program's sophomore class president, as they examine a patient during the Mission of Mercy statewide dental and health day in March.*





Students Kayce Douthit and Dennis Pham demonstrate the Promise 3 symbol during their work on the Extreme Makeover: Home Edition project in Mineola.

we were engaged in and committed to community/public service. We found, however, that we were not consistent in keeping track of service opportunities - whether performed by our students, our faculty, or our staff. In light of that realization, a consistent and standardized means of reporting all community/public service is being developed, with roll-out expected in August. I truly believe we will be astounded when yearly man-hours are tabulated!"

The tracking system will help the College chart project goals, participants, man hours and outcomes achieved.



Day of Caring: Phi Theta Kappa Chapter President Samantha Richardson, Officer Haley Koonce, and provisional member Jordan Delk.

One recent project that attracted documented participation from TJC students, faculty and staff was the production of an episode of ABC television's "Extreme Makeover - Home Edition" in March. More than 150 TJC volunteers helped make a new home for the Michael and Katrina Carr family of Mineola.

"I was there for 12 hours at the beginning of the project and I ended up being out there for 40 hours total," said sophomore Dennis Pham. "It was a wonderful experience. Giving back is very important to me. I believe that when you give back, someone is going to see that and it will become infectious."

The makeover project was completed in less than two weeks in early March. The ABC episode about the Carr home aired May 3.

In late March, about 50 dental hygiene and vision care students assisted in a day-long project to provide dental work and other health services and referrals to more than 500 people as part of the Texas Mission of Mercy statewide initiative.

Dr. David Nichols was among a dozen dentists to provide their professional expertise free of charge.

"Many of these patients were in desperate need," Dr. Nichols said. "There were cases of multiple abscessed teeth, missing

teeth, decayed teeth and these, in many cases, were the type of people who were not very literate in proper hygiene. The dental hygiene students helped expose these people to proper hygiene routines."

Tammy Whittington of Gilmer had seen Dr. Nichols once before, during a Mission of Mercy project at a local Christian youth organization. "I had seen Dr. Nichols before at Youth With a Mission and I'm glad he is here today. I would not have been able to afford this kind of care. Dr. Nichols is giving me immediate dentures and partials and I haven't had a full set of teeth in I don't know how long!" she said.



TJC President Dr. Mike Metke, right, helps Professor John Hays, left, and Dr. George Wilson repair a damaged desk at Escuela Las Lilas.

Dr. Nichols said he believes exposing students to charity care is an important part of the learning process.

"We have observed over the years that bringing college and high school-age students in to projects that provide charity care for patients in need stimulates a large percentage of them to continue to want to serve as a volunteer later in life. A lot of people go into health professions because they want to serve their fellow man, and this is one way they see it in action."

So, what is more important - TJC helping its surrounding community, or students and employees' personal growth as a result of service?

"I strongly feel the students here at TJC believe it is their duty to give back to their



community,” said Vincent Nguyen, director of the center for student life and involvement. “It would amaze the outsider to see what extent these students will go to personally help others. This past year has probably been one of the best years we’ve had. We’ve had more students motivated to explore and participate in events than ever.

“This generation of students has proven that it’s more than just a random act of kindness, it’s a way of life. And that’s refreshing.”

After an eight-day trip across Costa Rica that included two days of service work on a small school in the tiny community of Las Lilas, TJC student Rifath Abdul Azzak said the benefits of service are mutual.

“I feel immensely happy after giving back to the community in a little way. The easiest thing to do would be donate money but going on a trip in circumstances that we may not be used to and working hard to help an underprivileged community brought a lot of pleasure,” she said.

Fellow service worker Marc Randle agreed.

“Community service has always been a huge part of my life. I have participated



The TJC-UT Tyler volunteer group poses for a photo before their second day of work at Escuela Las Lilas.

in numerous community service projects throughout my college career. Every time I complete a community service project I leave with a feeling of gratitude that I

particular not only brought about feelings of gratitude, it was also a humbling experience.”

Dr. Metke’s administrative assistant

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“I believe that when you give back,  
someone is going to see that and it will  
become infectious.”

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could assist someone other than myself. The ability to participate in a community service project was critical in my decision to go to Costa Rica. This experience in

Ellen Matthews and her husband joined the trip, not only to experience the beauty of Costa Rica, but to help with the service project.

“To be reminded that everyone in the world doesn’t live the way we do, but to see them so content with the way they live was a real eye-opener for me,” she said. “It was a great experience.”

As simple as volunteering to work a few hours at the hurricane evacuation shelter or as involved as managing a semester-long project to benefit a terminally ill child, community service is a part of the glue that makes TJC the institution it is.

For certain, the results have included an improved quality of life for the citizens of Tyler, but perhaps just as important, a sense of place and self-worth to TJC students and employees.



Escuela Las Lilas after the completion of a new library (the room in the center).



# Alumni NEWS

## A MESSAGE FROM 2010-11 ALUMNI PRESIDENT GAY SMITH

Dear TJC Alumni and Friends,

It is a great honor to serve as president of the Tyler Junior College Alumni Association as we approach our 85th Anniversary year! In the fall of 1926, Tyler Junior College began a tradition of educational excellence that continues today. Enrollment continues to grow, as more students realize the value of this wonderful institution.

The Alumni Association mission is to support the College's many programs, promote its numerous qualities in our community, and assist in the recruitment of students to our campus. It is important to note that the majority of the funds raised through the association membership dues provide scholarships for TJC students.

Throughout my years of serving on this board, I have seen those scholarships given to well-deserving applicants that were truly appreciative. But each time, there are many more needs than we are able to adequately fund.

If you are not an Alumni Association member, I hope you will join us this year. Get involved and take advantage of the wonderful benefits the association offers, but more importantly, help us provide the opportunities for our future alumni members!



Thank you for your support,

*Gay Jordan Smith*

Gay Jordan Smith

*Gay, a senior vice president at Southside Bank, grew up in Hawkins and was her high school's salutatorian. In 1984 she graduated magna cum laude from Tyler Junior College and in 1986 graduated with honors from The University of Texas at Tyler. She also graduated with honors from Southern Methodist University/Southwestern Graduate School of Banking and first began her career in banking in 1991. Gay and husband Scotty live in the Whitehouse area.*

## TJC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS SELECT 2010 AWARD RECIPIENTS

### DR. ROBERT PETERS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Dr. Robert Peters, III '61: Distinguished Alumni Award is the most prestigious honor given by Tyler Junior College.

It recognizes a former student for distinguished professional achievement



Dr. Robert "Bob" Peters, III

and distinctive contributions to society, and by doing so has brought honor to the College. Dr. "Bob" has been a resident of Tyler for most of his life, graduating from Tyler Junior College before going on to earn his B.A.

from Texas Christian University, his M.A. from Stephen F. Austin State University, and his Ph.D in history from the University of Texas at Austin. He first began his 38 years at Tyler Junior College in 1966 as a government and history professor and retired as dean of the school of university studies in 2004.

Over the years, he has received numerous awards and recognition and was the first of only three TJC professors to receive the Minnie Stevens Piper Professor of the Year Award. He has served on the governing boards of six state agencies under the administrations of five Texas governors. After 48 years of writing, he retired from the T.B. Butler Publishing Company but continues to broadcast the weather for local radio stations, something he has done for over 48 years. Among his many accomplishments are writing two history books and eight government textbooks.

## SURVEY RESULTS ARE IN!

*Special thanks to everyone who completed the Alumni Association's online survey. Drawings were held at our Tyler Area Alumni Members Celebration at Coyote Sam's Restaurant on June 17. Congratulations to Paula Johnson, the winner of our \$500 prize and a lifetime membership! Also to Band Gold member Kathy Jo Huckaby who won a \$500 scholarship. Over 150 alumni completed our survey to help us better serve our former TJC students. Results included:*

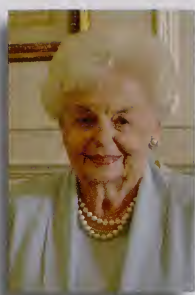
- Class years 1945- 2007 responded.
- Over 70% were women.
- The largest special interest alumni group to take part in survey were Belles with 23%.
- Alumni prefer weekend events.
- Alumni prefer TJC publications mailed.
- The preferred method of contact was email at 81%.
- 65% use Facebook as their "social media".
- Alumni members joined the Association to support and stay connected to TJC.
- 40% were interested in traveling with the Apache Adventurers. They preferred cruises and/or flights to single destination. Favorites in the USA were Hawaii, New York and Alaska. Top destinations out of the country were Ireland, the Caribbean and Italy.



# Alumni NEWS

## VIRGINIA GATEWOOD BLACK AND GOLD

The Black and Gold Award recognizes outstanding devotion to Tyler Junior College by an individual who is not a former student but volunteers time, effort and resources to promote the mission and goals of the College.



Virginia Gatewood

Virginia Gatewood and her late husband James (Jim) have supported TJC and its students by

“giving a helping hand so that others can help themselves.” Virginia continues to honor their commitment and together they have given a total of 67 scholarships through the TJC Foundation, including 63 annual scholarships and four scholarship endowments. Their endowments include the James and Virginia Hawkins Gatewood Presidential Scholarship, two James F. Gatewood Top Ten Scholarships and the Dr. Ben and Maytee Fisch Endowed Scholarship. Recently, Virginia provided a challenge gift to launch the Tyler Junior College “Promises to Keep” Scholarship Campaign, which has raised \$350,000.

Their generosity also made it possible for TJC to develop a master plan for the ongoing Tyler Junior College Botanical Gardens initiative and established the James F. and Virginia H. Gatewood Garden as part of the project. As the Gatewood Garden plaque indicates, the garden honors “James and Virginia and their dedication to education, as well as their belief in taking time to reflect on life’s many blessings.”

For Information on  
**TJC Alumni Homecoming 2010**  
please turn to Page 32

## PHI THETA KAPPA APACHE SPIRIT

Phi Theta Kappa Alpha Omicron Chapter sponsors Gigi Delk, Dr. Alan Barnes and Shannon Cross: The Apache Spirit Award recognizes a person or group who has shown spirit and motivation through the contribution of time and energy to a program or activity which measurably benefited TJC. PTK students brought home multiple academic honors from recent 2010 conventions. The chapter won the Congeniality Award for best exemplifying the hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa while campaigning for office. The chapter was selected as the Texas Regional Vice President for District III for the 2010-11 year. Advisor Dr. Alan Barnes was presented a Distinguished Chapter Advisor medallion, and Tracy Delk was presented the Tejas Award for his efforts on behalf of the Alpha Omicron chapter and the region. Chapter advisor Gigi Delk received the Pinnacle Award for Continued Excellence as a Phi Theta Kappa advisor. This is the top Texas PTK award for advisors and includes a scholarship to the Texas Honor Institute. Texas had two 2010 Guistwhite Scholars, both from TJC. Melanie Bishop of Fort Worth and Luke Bazil of Tyler were among the 20 PTK members selected nationwide out of 791 applicants. TJC was awarded a Service Hallmark – for the chapter’s service programs and initiatives ranked in the top 25 in the nation. TJC was also recognized as being among the Top 100 chapters nationwide and further was identified as a 2010 Distinguished Chapter. Following the international convention, TJC student Bazil was named one of 20 USA Today All-USA Academic First Team members and was one of six students selected to meet speaker Melinda Gates of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The TJC Phi Theta Kappa Chapter was established in 1931 and Mildred Howell was the first sponsor. Over the years, the Chapter has received numerous awards and recognitions.

## BILLY WAYNE GILES SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Special Recognition Award recognizes an individual for their outstanding professional achievements, contributions to society, and/or service to their community bringing honor to TJC. Director of Counsel-



Billy Wayne Giles

ing at Van High School, Bill Giles has been with Van ISD for 50 years, most of those years as a counselor. Although he did not attend TJC, his wife Judy and their two children are all alumni—and daughter Paige was an Apache Belle.

It may be hard to prove it, but it is a good assumption that he has sent more student to TJC than anyone. He not only encourages his students to attend our College, he also makes personal calls to people and ask them to give “his kids” scholarships. Giles has received numerous awards and honors over the years including: Van Citizen of the Year, Van High School Employee of the Year, Van High School Alumni of the Year and Van City Gentleman of the Year. He was honored in 2008 for his work with foreign exchange students and the city of Van honored him in May with “Bill Giles Week” for his work with their city and the school. He has also been honored as KLTV Channel 7 “East Texan of the Week.”



# Another TJC Incubator Graduate Wins Award

By Elise Mullinix  
Assistant Director, Marketing & Public Affairs





In September 2000, when Larry Edgerton put \$10,000 into a home medical equipment business, he had a desk, a chair and a 136-square-foot office; and he was his only employee.

In collaboration with TJC's Tyler Area Business Incubator and its Small Business Development Center and Service Corps of Retired Executives, the incubator provided Edgerton with the guidance and counseling needed to make sound decisions in Edge Medical Supply's first few years of existence, ensuring the success of the fledgling business.

"When I started out, I knew a whole lot about home medical equipment; but I didn't know how to run a business," Edgerton said. "I cannot say enough about TJC, the Tyler Area Business Incubator, Small Business Development Center and SCORE. They were with me every step of the way."

Today, Edge Medical Supply has 10 locations, about 50 employees and could achieve a multimillion-dollar payroll this year.

The National Business Incubation Association named Edge Medical Supply as the 2010 Outstanding Incubator Graduate in the nontechnology category during NBIA's International Conference on Business Incubation in May in Orlando, Fla.

This marks the second time in four years that a product of TJC's Tyler Area Business Incubator has won top honors at the international level.

A 2009 graduate of the Tyler Area Business Incubator, Edge Medical Supply enhances community health by providing excellent customer service to those needing wheelchairs, oxygen



Brian Bersano, chief operator officer, and Larry Edgerton, owner of Edge Medical Supply, at the NBIA meeting in Orlando with Tyler Area Incubator Director Tony Tadasa.

equipment, orthopedics, nebulizers and many other products in the durable medical equipment industry.

In 2007, the same award was won by TJC NBIA graduate Exceptional Home Care, which specializes in pediatric home medical care.

Edgerton serves as the company's president and chief executive officer. Brian Bersano joined the company in 2002 as a partner/owner and serves as chief financial officer and chief operating officer.

they need to make their ventures successful.

NBIA estimates that in 2005 alone, North American incubators assisted more than 27,000 start-up companies that provided full-time employment for more than 100,000 workers and generated annual revenue of more than \$17 billion. Approximately 7,000 business incubators operate worldwide.

"I get great joy out of watching start-up client companies grow from the incubation stage into multimillion-dollar

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**"I cannot say enough about TJC,  
the Tyler Area Business Incubator,  
Small Business Development Center and SCORE.  
They were with me every step of the way."**

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Business incubation programs like the Tyler Area Business Incubator serve as catalysts for starting and growing companies by providing entrepreneurs with the expertise, networks and tools

businesses," said Tony Tadasa, director of the TABI, which is located on the TJC West Campus. "I see them and all other TABI clients as valued customers. Their success is our success."



colleges in attendance with more than 800 students in competition. We had five students qualify in a total of 12 events."

The team then traveled directly from Wisconsin to the Phi Rho Pi national tournament in New Orleans, where they won another armload of trophies.

A summary of their winnings: Jessica Peters, bronze in persuasive speaking; Justin Charles, silver in program oral interpretation; Alex Hatoum, bronze in parliamentary debate, gold in impromptu speaking and a gold in extemporaneous speaking; Daniel Hatoum, bronze in parliamentary debate, gold in impromptu speaking and gold in extemporaneous speaking; Jawoine Hawkins, bronze in dramatic interpretation and gold in prose interpretation.

Those wins set TJC up for the following sweepstakes awards: bronze in debate, silver in individual events and bronze in overall sweepstakes.

The Hatoum brothers, Alex and Daniel, were active in high school forensics but wondered if they had the mettle to continue at the college level.

"The reason I got into it was because I was afraid to speak publicly," Alex said. "My first extemporaneous speech was under 30 seconds, because I couldn't say anything; so I did it simply to prove I could do it."

Now, both brothers are transferring to the University of Texas at Austin, where they will continue to compete in forensics and study law.

"We never really had aspirations to be lawyers or speakers when we were younger," Alex said, "but upon discovering the challenge and upon conquering it, we realized it's something we really enjoy and want to continue doing.

"It helped us discover where we belong."

that I get to spend with the best students of Tyler Junior College," said sponsor Dr. Alan Barnes, professor of English. "Some students are natural leaders, some are easy to guide to greatness, and others are strong-willed, but all come to love the organization and local chapter so much that they put aside their own agendas and work for the goals established by the

national organization and local chapter. There is a legacy here, thanks to previous advisors like Lena Exum, Judy Turman, Cathryn Cates, Dennis Mayfield, and now Gigi Delk, who helped to make this organization special. It is an honor and a pleasure to be an advisor for Alpha Omicron."



## **TJC ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2010**

### **September 17-18**

#### **Friday, September 17**

- 7:30 a.m. .... Founders' Day Memorial Service,  
Windsor Plaza Gardens
- 6:00 p.m. .... 1960 Reunion/All Alumni Mixer &  
Classic Car Show  
(White Administrative Service Center Lobby-  
where Teepee stood)

#### **Saturday, September 18**

- 11:30 a.m. .... Awards Luncheon  
(Apache Rooms, Rogers Student Center)
- 2:00 p.m. .... Reunions (Rogers Student Center)
- Class of 1960 Golden Reunion
  - 1960 National Championship Football Team Reunion
  - Apache Band Reunion
  - Apache Belles 44th Line (1990-92) & all Former Belles
  - Brothers & Sisters Reunion (1966-80)
  - Geology Club
  - Phi Theta Kappa - Alpha Omicron Chapter Honor Society
  - Wesley Methodist Foundation - 50th Anniversary
- 5:00-7:00 p.m. .... Alumni Tailgate Party  
TMF Rose Stadium Parking Lot  
(Catered by Spring Creek - RSVP by September 15)  
Alumni Members Free/Guest - \$10 - Tickets required
- 5:30 p.m. .... Walk the Rim - Band/Belles and their Alumni
- 6:00 p.m. .... Homecoming Queen/King Presentation  
& Pregame Show
- 7:00 p.m. .... Football Kickoff - TJC Apaches vs Navarro

**For more information or to RSVP for events, contact Nicole Durham in the TJC Alumni Office at 903-510-2588 or e-mail [ndur@tjc.edu](mailto:ndur@tjc.edu).**



# The Three Promises of Tyler Junior College.

1

## *A quality education.*

Our courses are taught by faculty who chose their profession not to do research but because they have a passion for helping others learn. Our student-to-teacher ratio is 23:1, giving students their best chance at success.



2

## *A vibrant student life.*

Research has proven that an active student is a successful one. At TJC, performance groups, athletics, music, band, drama and a wide array of student organizations provide the full college experience.



3

## *Community service.*

We're the community's college. We expect our faculty, staff and students to pitch in wherever possible to help others. By losing ourselves in service to others, connections are made that improve our lives and the understanding of our places in society.



# TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE



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